

What is the putative father registry?

The Putative Father Registry records the names and addresses of fathers (or men who believe they are fathers) of children born outside of marriage.

Why should a father put his name on the Putative Father Registry?

The Putative Father Registry allows a man to “officially” claim he is the father of a child. A man may want to do this before paternity is legally established if he can’t find the child’s mother or if the mother doesn’t want to establish paternity for the child.

The Putative Father Registry is used in adoption proceedings to identify the child’s father, and promptly secure his consent to proceed with the adoption. A man who is concerned that his child may be adopted without his consent should place his name on the Putative Father Registry before the child’s birth or within 15 days of the child’s birth in order to be notified of an adoption proceeding for the child. Failure to file in a timely manner shall waive a man’s right to withhold consent to an adoption proceeding unless:

The person was led to believe through the mother’s misrepresentation or fraud that:

- The mother was not pregnant when in fact she was; or
- The pregnancy was terminated when in fact the baby was born; or,
- After the birth, the child died when in fact the child is alive; and,

The person upon the discovery of the misrepresentation or fraud satisfied the requirements within 15 days of that discovery.



Notice of Intent to Claim Paternity

A man’s name is added to the Putative Father Registry when a court order is entered saying he is the legal father. A man can also add his name to the Putative Father Registry by filing a *Notice of Intent to Claim Paternity* or *Acknowledgment of Paternity* with the Bureau of Vital Records.

Filing this notice does not establish legal paternity, but it does create an official record of the man’s claim to be the father of a child. The man’s name is not added to the child’s birth certificate. A man should contact the Bureau of Vital Records if he wants to add his name to the registry.

A person filing a *Notice of Intent to Claim Paternity* of a child shall notify the registry of any change of address.

Who should register?

A man who is not married to a child’s mother may acknowledge paternity by completing the *Notice of Intent to Claim Paternity*. The completed form must be notarized and mailed to the Putative Father Registry.

A person who has filed a *Notice of Intent to Claim Paternity* may at any time revoke a *Notice of Intent to Claim Paternity* by submitting a rescission to the Bureau of Vital Records

An un-revoked *Notice of Intent to Claim Paternity* of a child may be introduced in evidence by any party, other than the person who filed such notice, in any proceeding in which such fact may be relevant.

Voluntary acknowledgement of paternity

Parents can voluntarily establish paternity for their child by completing an *Affidavit Acknowledging Paternity* any time after their child’s birth. When both parents properly complete and sign this affidavit, the man’s name is added to the child’s birth certificate and the man becomes the legal father of the child. This affidavit has the same effect as a court order establishing paternity and can be used as a basis for entering a child support order.

Affix  
first-class  
postage  
here

cut, fold and secure with tape before mailing

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services  
ATTN: Putative Father Registry  
P.O. Box 570  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570

Notice of Intent to Claim Paternity – please print or type

Please read carefully before completing this form. This is a legal document. Type or print everything except your signature. Use BLACK INK only. Please complete all items. If an item is not known, enter “Unknown”.

Child's Information

Child's Name (First, Middle, Last) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth (City, County, State) \_\_\_\_\_  
Hospital of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Information

Name (First, Middle, Last) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year) \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth (City, State) \_\_\_\_\_  
SSN \_\_\_\_\_ Education (Highest Grade Completed) \_\_\_\_\_ Race \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Address (Street, City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Information

Name (First, Middle, Last) \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth (City, State) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year) \_\_\_\_\_  
SSN \_\_\_\_\_ Education (Highest Grade Completed) \_\_\_\_\_ Race \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Address (Street, City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

I have received written or oral notice regarding the Putative Father Registry and I understand my alternatives, and the time limits for filing. I understand the responsibilities that arise from signing this acknowledgment as explained in the pamphlet. I swear I am the natural father of the child named above and it is my intent to claim paternity of this child. I am requesting this acknowledgment be registered with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' "Putative Father Registry".

Must be signed in the presence of a notary      Father's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Apply Notary Embosser  
or Stamp below.

State of \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ subscribed and sworn before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_ Notary signature \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Name (typed or printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_



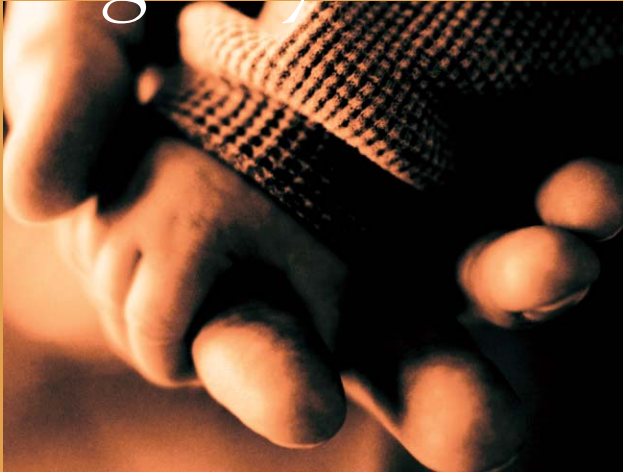
For more information  
about paternity, child support, or  
generic tests, contact:

Family Support Division  
P.O. Box 2320  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-2320  
(800) 859-7999

Alternate forms of this publication for persons with  
disabilities may be obtained by contacting the Missouri  
Department of Health and Senior Services at 573-526-1537.  
Hearing and speech impaired citizens telephone  
1-800-735-2966. VOICE 1-800-735-2466.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE  
ACTION EMPLOYER  
Services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Important  
facts about the  
putative father  
registry



Paternity  
information for  
mothers and fathers